

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for converting thermal energy to another energy form comprising at least one heat input and accumulator module ~~having; each~~ heat-input and accumulator module comprising:

a device transmitting a heat-input transmitting device; and
an accumulator,

the wherein the heat input transmitting device and the accumulator are being
connected to one another to facilitate for the exchange of fluid fluids, therebetween; and

an energy conversion device connected to the accumulator to facilitate the
exchange of fluid therebetween, wherein the energy conversion device is configured to
convert wherein the energy that can be built up as fluid pressure in the heat input and
accumulator module can be converted to the into the another other energy form by means of
an energy conversion device, wherein the energy conversion device is a hydraulic motor
which can be connected with a gear unit of the apparatus, wherein the device transmitting a
heat input is an internal combustion engine, the internal combustion engine being connected
with the gear unit of the apparatus, and

wherein pressure bottles are provided for intermittent storage of pressurized
hydraulic liquid, the combustion heat from the engine being essentially absorbed in the
pressurized hydraulic liquid, and the pressure bottles are also provided for subsequent supply
of the pressurized hydraulic liquid to the hydraulic motor for driving the hydraulic motor.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a plurality of ~~heat input and accumulator modules~~ connected to a distribution unit, wherein ~~each of the individual heat input and accumulator modules are~~ can be connected intermittently to the energy conversion device by means of the distribution unit.

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~The apparatus as claimed in claim 9, An~~
apparatus for converting thermal energy to another energy form comprising at least one heat
input and accumulator module, each heat-input and accumulator module comprising:

a device transmitting a heat-input, and

an accumulator,

the device and accumulator being connected to one another for the exchange
of fluids, wherein the energy that can be built up as fluid pressure in the heat input and
accumulator module can be converted to said other energy form by means of an energy
conversion device,

wherein the energy conversion device is a hydraulic lifting apparatus or a
torque-storing apparatus.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The apparatus as claimed in claim 9, further
comprising a heat exchanger connected to the energy conversion device, and wherein the heat
exchanger is connected to the heat-input transmitting device via a circulation pump.

Claims 14-18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The apparatus as claimed in claim 12,
further comprising a heat exchanger connected to the energy conversion device, and wherein
the heat exchanger is connected to the heat-input transmitting device via a circulation pump.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in claim 19, further
comprising a ~~defoaming and dehumidifying reservoir return chamber~~ situated between the
heat exchanger and the circulation pump.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 11~~ claim
12, wherein the heat-input transmitting device is a solar collector.

Claim 22 (Cancelled).

Claim 23 (New): The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a hydraulic motor provided between the device transmitting a heat-input and the energy conversion device, the hydraulic motor being additionally connected to a generator for current generation, wherein on the one hand, the hydraulic motor can be used to directly drive the generator in case of an energy-input from the device transmitting a heat-input, and on the other hand, the hydraulic motor can be supplied by the energy conversion device without an energy-input from the device transmitting a heat-input.

Claim 24 (New): The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, further comprising several devices transmitting a heat-input and accumulators, the accumulators being connected to a distribution unit, wherein the individual heat-input transmitting devices and accumulators can be intermittently connected to the energy conversion device by means of the distribution unit.

Claim 25 (New): The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the hydraulic lifting device has a weight, guide rails, and latching elements, wherein the position in height of the weight corresponding to a storing of energy can be secured with the aid of latching elements locking-in to the guide rails.

Claim 26 (New): The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein the accumulator has a secondary store which is connected with a collecting tank, in order to supply the apparatus with fluid, in case fluid entered into the hydraulic lifting apparatus while lifting the weight.

Claim 27 (New): The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the hydraulic lifting apparatus comprises a lifting unit, the lifting unit consisting of a threaded guide rod and a hydraulic motor.

Claim 28 (New): An apparatus for converting thermal energy to another energy form having at least one heat input and accumulator module, each heat-input and accumulator module comprising:

a device transmitting a heat-input, and

an accumulator,

the device and accumulator being connected to one another for the exchange of fluids, wherein the energy that can be built up as fluid pressure in the heat input and accumulator module can be converted to the other energy form, by means of an energy conversion device,

wherein the device transmitting a heat input is a hydraulic motor working as a hydraulic pump and driven by a gear unit of the apparatus.

Claim 29 (New): The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, further comprising a plurality of accumulator modules connected to a distribution unit, wherein the individual accumulator modules can be connected intermittently to the energy conversion device by means of the distribution unit.

Claim 30 (New): The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, further comprising a heat exchanger connected to the energy conversion device, and wherein the heat exchanger is connected to the heat-input transmitting device via a circulation pump.

Claim 31 (New): The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, wherein the hydraulic motor is connected to a reduction gear flange.